

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TOKYO 09932 310338Z

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ACTION EA-14

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FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3625

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TECH, JA, US

SUBJECT: ABCC

1. ABCC ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF MEMBERS HAVE MET WITH MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND WELFARE (MHW), AT LATTER'S REQUEST, TO DEVELOP COST DATA FOR USE BY MHW IN PREPARATION OF JAPAN FY 1975 BUDGET FOR NEW INSTITUTE. THIS BUDGET IS TO BE SUBMITTED TO MINISTRY OF FINANCE BY END OF AUGUST 1974. FINAL BUDGET IS SUBMITTED BY MINISTRY OF FINANCE TO DIET IN DECEMBER 1974. WE HAVE STRESSED TO BOTH MHW AND FONOFF OFFICIALS THAT, IN VIEW OF CONTEMPLATED 50-50 FINANCING OF NEW INSTITUTE, BUDGET FOR FY 75 MUST BE MUTUALLY AGREED UPON. THIS MEANS THAT US INPUT TO BUDGET PROCESS MUST BE PROVIDED EITHER BEFORE MHW SUBMISSION TO FINANCE MINISTRY, OR AN UNDERSTANDING REACHED THAT BUDGET WILL BE SUBMITTED FOR US REVIEW FOLLOWING RECEIPT BY MINISTRY OF FINANCE. WE HAVE REQUESTED GOJ VIEWS ON PROCEDURE TO BE FOLLOWED AND WILL ADVISE DEPT AND AEC WHEN RECEIVED. IN EMBASSY VIEW, DISUCSSION IN FALL, PROBABLY AT TIME OF FINAL NEGOTIATING SESSION ON ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW INSTITUTE WOULD BE PREFERABLE TO EARLY REVIEW, PROVIDED THERE IS CLEAR UNDERSTANDING THAT MHW BUDGET REQUEST NOT FROZEN AFTER SUBMISSION TO FINANCE MINISTRY.

2. INFORMATION PROVIDED BY ABCC STAFF MEMBERS WAS FACTUAL IN NATURE, AND THEY WERE INSTUCTED BY DR. ALLEN TO EXPRESS NO APPROVAL OR JUDGMENTS ON BUDGET LEVELS WHICH MIGHT BE SUGGESTED BY MHW. WHILE BUDGET LEVEL FOR NEW INSTITUTE IS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 02 TOKYO 09932 310338Z

FIXED IN A GENERAL SENSE BY ASSUMPTION THAT INSTITUTE WILL

BASICALLY CARRY ON EXISTING ABCC PROGRAMS AND STAFFING AND WILL FOLLOW LOCAL SALARY PATTERNS, SUCH VARIABLES AS EXACT SALARY LEVEL TO BE PAID, AND WHETHER INSTITUTE WILL PAY TRANSPORTATION AND HOUSING ALLOWANCES FOR NON-LOCAL EMPLOYEES WILL HAVE AN EFFECT ON OVERALL FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS.

3. MHW OFFICIALS INFORMED ABCC STAFF THAT MHW IS STUDYING POSSIBLE GRANT OF NEW COMPUTER, WITH ESTIMATED VALUE OF \$700,000, TO INSTITUTE AS JAPANESE COUNTERPART CONTRIBUTION TO INITIAL ASSETS OF INSTITUTE. THIS WAS LATER CONFIRMED BY TSUNASHIMA OF MHW, WHO SAID NEGOTIATIONS WITH MINISTRY OF FINANCE ON THIS POSSIBILITY WERE VERY DELICATE AND ASKED THAT WE TREAT DISCLOSURE AS VERY CONFIDENTIAL. IN EMBASSY VIEW, SUCH CONTRIBUTION COULD REPRESENT ATTRACTIVE SOLUTION TO NEGOTIATING ISSUE OF INITIAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO INSTITUTE.

4. SCICOUNS HAS STRESSED BOTH TO MHW AND FONOFF THAT ABCC FINANCING PRIOR TO APRIL 1, 1975 REMAINS A PROBLEM. EMBASSY URGES THAT REVIEW OF ABCC FINANCIAL NEEDS PRIOR TO APRIL 1, 1975, BE COMPLETED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, AND ABCC AUTHORIZED TO PRESENT PROBLEM TO MHW.

5. EMBASSY NEEDS SPECIFIC LANGUAGE SUGGESTION OF LATEST DRAFT DOCUMENTS FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW INSTITUTE IN ORDER TO CONTINUE DISCUSSION WITH FONOFF.

HODGSON

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